



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION
UNIT #15041
APO AP 96258-5041

EAID-CG

2 MAR 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #6, Buddy System

1. This policy letter rescinds and supersedes Policy Letter #6, Buddy System dated 7 July 2006. This policy is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded and/or superseded.
2. Reference: USFK Command Policy #6, Buddy System, 25 May 2006.
3. This policy applies to all 2ID personnel, to include civilian employees, family members, and contractors.
4. Force protection and the safety of 2ID personnel are paramount. Furthermore, 2ID Soldiers must live the Soldier's Creed and Army Values everywhere and at all times. The Global War on Terrorism and potential antagonism by personnel opposed to the United States require that all personnel be vigilant at all times. All 2ID personnel must also show loyalty and respect in ensuring that their comrades are safe and that all 2ID personnel are serving as good ambassadors in the Republic of Korea, especially when off a military installation.
5. 2ID personnel have a duty and responsibility at all times to ensure that they live up to the high standards of the Warrior Division. This includes the duty and responsibility to step in and protect other members of the 2ID team from harm, and to intervene as required to prevent irresponsible or dangerous behavior.
6. Therefore, I strongly encourage all 2ID personnel, whenever off a military installation in the ROK, to be accompanied by at least one other individual to serve as that person's "battle buddy."
7. **A "battle buddy" is more than just a "social companion."** A battle buddy is a someone who lives the Soldier's Creed, who will "never leave a fallen comrade" and who will ensure that his or her buddy is protected from harm, acts responsibly and lawfully, and is capable of performing his or her wartime or armistice mission at a moment's notice (e.g. by drinking alcohol responsibly).
8. Subject to other provisions of this policy, a Soldier may choose to have his or her spouse serve as a "battle buddy."

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9. Currently, compliance with this policy **is highly encouraged but not mandatory**. However, during periods of heightened tension, increased threat, or for other reasons related to unit readiness or good order and discipline, I retain the authority to issue a General Order or policy that would make the Buddy System mandatory for all 2ID personnel.

10. At the same time, I authorize Commanders, O-5 and above, to impose further requirements upon Soldiers regarding buddy policies as deemed necessary and in accordance with appropriate regulations and directives. Authority to waive or otherwise modify this policy is not further delegated.

11. If an O-5 or above Commander does impose further requirements, such as mandating a battle buddy policy for all or selected personnel, that Commander has the authority to consider the following:

a. Directing that battle buddies must be approved by appropriate leaders in the chain-of-command and that an evaluation of battle buddies must be part of a first-line supervisor's assessment during "Under the Oak Tree" counseling;

b. Directing that leaders (e.g. first line supervisors) must impose particular requirements for battle buddies (e.g., "matching" Soldiers so that two recently arriving in the ROK are not each other's battle buddies or ensuring two Soldiers with alcohol-related misconduct are not each other's battle buddies).

c. Directing, as needed, a "designated non-drinker" when two or more Soldiers are going out socially and it is expected that alcohol will be consumed.

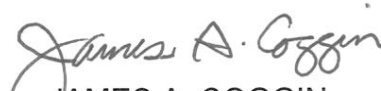
d. Directing, if the Commander imposes a mandatory buddy policy, that the Commander ensures that it is known that battle buddies have **duties and responsibilities towards each other**, to include upholding Army Values, the Soldier's Creed, and relevant regulations and policies; and that they have a duty, as battle buddies, **to intervene and/or request assistance if a buddy is in trouble, or is in danger of committing misconduct**; and that failure to do so as necessary **may be considered a dereliction of duty if the Soldier knowingly or negligently fails to make reasonable efforts to intervene**. Dereliction of duty can be considered a violating of Article 92, UCMJ. (Note: Soldiers are not to intervene when intervention is likely to cause increased danger to civilians or servicemembers. Furthermore, the responsibility to intervene **does not** in any way entitle a Soldier to intervene when law enforcement officials (either US or ROK) are performing their official duties.)

12. All 2ID leaders, from senior Commanders to first-line supervisors, similarly have a duty and responsibility to ensure that 2ID Soldiers uphold Army Values, the Soldier's

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Creed, and relevant regulations and policies. All 2ID leaders have a similar responsibility to intervene and/or request assistance if they see a Soldier in trouble or in danger of committing misconduct, and should likewise know that failure to do so as necessary may also be considered a dereliction of duty, as defined in Article 92, UCMJ, if the leader knowingly or negligently fails to make reasonable efforts to intervene.


JAMES A. COGGIN
Major General, USA
Commanding

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